



OFFICE OF COUNCIL PRESIDENT ANTHONY YOUNG

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San Diego City Council President Tony Young Receives Affordable Housing Award

SAN DIEGO, Calif. (June 21, 2011) -- San Diego City Council President Tony Young was recognized during the June 21 Council meeting for receiving the “In Appreciation” Award of Excellence from the National Association of Housing & Redevelopment Officials (NAHRO).

The honor was announced last month at NAHRO’s Pacific Southwest Region annual convention in San Francisco and presented on Tuesday to Council President Young by San Diego Housing Commission Board Chairman Gary Gramling.

“Council President Young is a proven ally of the San Diego Housing Commission and its affordable housing programs and operations, and is highly deserving of this Award of Excellence,” said Gramling.

In nominating Council President Young for the award, the San Diego Housing Commission noted “his progressive leadership on local housing issues as well as his strong commitment and support of affordable housing programs and services.”

Through the provision of federal Community Development Block Grant funding, Young was instrumental in helping the San Diego Housing Commission establish a “one-stop” resource center for low income individuals and families seeking a wide range of housing assistance -- from tenant issues and foreclosures to first-time homebuyer loans. The resource center opened earlier this month at the San Diego Housing Commission’s downtown headquarters.

He also was lauded for his support of the relocation of the San Diego Family Justice Center, a city agency that helps families affected by domestic violence, to its new home at the housing commission’s Smart Corner complex.

An advocate of affordable housing programs, Young supported the San Diego Housing Commission's innovative Finance Plan, which raised \$95 million in low-interest Fannie Mae and FHA mortgages by leveraging the equity of its existing properties to create additional affordable rental housing for local families.

Young also supported the housing commission's 2010 agreement to assume administration of the city's Homeless Services programs, including the Emergency Winter Shelter program that provides shelter to more than 350 homeless individuals and veterans during the winter months.

In addition to his duties as Council President, Young co-chairs the joint City-County Reinvestment Task Force (RTF). The RTF monitors local banking practices and recommends investment strategies that benefit low and moderate-income neighborhoods through small-business loans, affordable housing developments and single-family home financing.

"I am humbled by this recognition," said Council President Young. "I share it with the many dedicated citizens and tireless city leaders who are working hard every day to make San Diego a more affordable and livable community."

Council President Young represents the City of San Diego's Fourth Council District, including neighborhoods across southeastern San Diego from Oak Park to Paradise Hills and from Mt. Hope to Lomita Village.

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